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FM AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 4436  
INFO RUEHAM/AMEMBASSY AMMAN 2260  
RUEHRH/AMEMBASSY RIYADH 0266  
RUEHDM/AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS 0003  
RUEHKU/AMEMBASSY KUWAIT 0592

UNCLAS BAGHDAD 002279

SIPDIS

STATE FOR NEA/PPD AND NEA/I; INFO IIP/G/NEA

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [KPAO](#) [KCUL](#) [IZ](#)

SUBJECT: IRAQI MEDIA PLACEMENT OF PRESIDENT'S RAMADAN GREETING

11. (U) Summary: President Obama's special Ramadan greeting to the Muslim world was carried in several Iraqi newspapers and news websites, as well as on three Iraqi Television channels that broadcast throughout the region. Reporting of the greeting was immediate and positive. A number of news outlets underscored the President's message on ending the Iraq war responsibly, and starting a new chapter in U.S.-Muslim relations around the world. End Summary.

12. (U) The following is a list of placements generated as a result of post's outreach efforts:

#### PRINT PRESS

Ad-Dastoor (second most widely read Arabic daily), August 23. Front page news bar headlined: "Obama and Muslims," focuses on the President's pledge to begin anew with the Muslim world.

Az-Zaman (independent, privately-owned daily), August 23. Page 2 headline reads: "On the occasion of Ramadan, Obama Promises to End War."

Al-Ittihad (pro-Kurdish Arabic language daily), August 23. Page 3 headline reads: "Obama congratulates world's Muslims in Arabic." Full length article on President Obama's "commitment to build a safer and more secure world."

#### TV AND WEB COVERAGE

Al-Sumariya TV (Evening newscast of August 22).  
Crawler: "President Obama promises tangible measures to renew U.S. relations with Islamic world."

Al-Sharqiya TV Website:  
Caption: "Obama Addresses Muslims on Occasion of Ramadan."

Al-Hurra Iraq TV: Recurring crawler: "U.S. commends role of Islam in advancing justice, progress, tolerance and human dignity."

Asharq Al-Awsat Newspaper Website:  
Caption: "Obama reemphasizes commitment to "new relations" with Muslims to achieve mutual goals."

Al Malaf Press News Agency Website: "Obama addresses Muslims for Ramadan, vows to end the war in Iraq, and urges two-state solution for Israel-Palestine... re-emphasizes commitment to new relations with Muslims to achieve mutual goals."

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